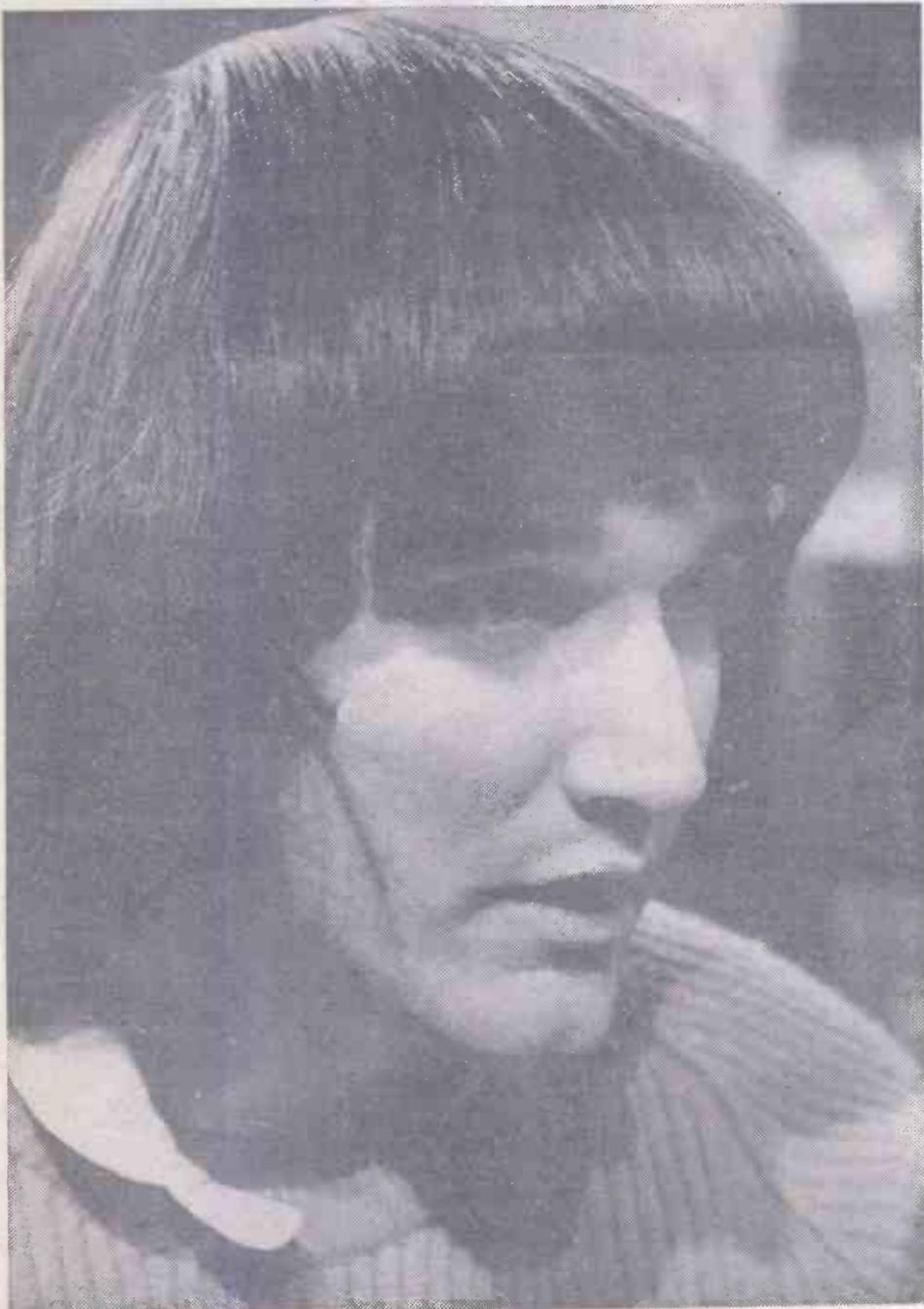


HERMAN * MOODY BLUES * GENE PITNEY * BACHELORS
 SOUNDS ORCHESTRAL * SEARCHERS * TWINKLE * STONES

DISC **weekly**

DECEMBER 26, 1964

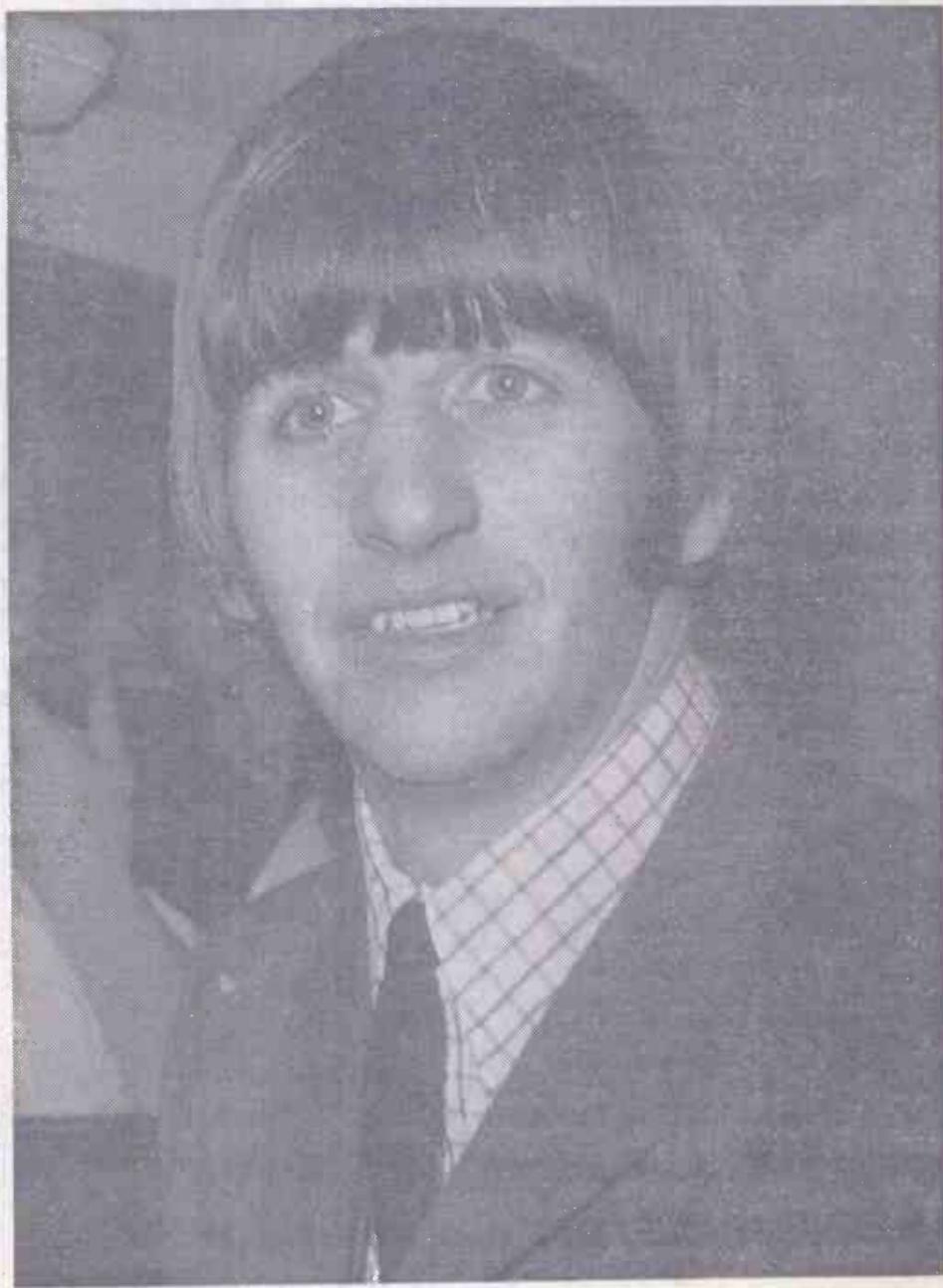
SIXPENCE



▶ P J

'HE CAN BE
 THE BIGGEST
 STAR OF 1965'

page 3



RINGO

'Secret'
 shopping
 with the
 Beatles

page 9

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SILVER DISCS FOR CHRISTMAS



Julie Rogers is seen here at the Lotus House restaurant in London last week with Manfred Mann, who joined in her celebration dinner held following her appearance on "Sunday Night At The London Palladium." Earlier in the evening, Frank Ifield and Norman Vaughan had presented Julie with her Silver Disc for sales of over 250,000 copies of "The Wedding." Over 30 relatives and friends attended the family get-together.

Back to States for Manfreds

NEGOTIATIONS are now being completed for Manfred Mann to return to America for a three-week tour in April.

The group who are set to go to Australia in January, are also being negotiated for a tour of Scandinavia and Germany in March. This would be for three weeks.

The boys will be appearing at the Dolce Vita Club in Newcastle over Christmas. They will be the first group to appear in cabaret there.

CILLA'S 'COVER' SONG AND FIRST LP SOON

CILLA BLACK will kick off the New Year with a new single titled "You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin'"—the follow-up to her "It's For You." The new disc was completed only last Friday, and is now being pressed.

Although it is a "cover" of an American disc by The Righteous Brothers that is now climbing the U.S. charts, Cilla's version is quite different in treatment.

The release date is January 8. She's on "Ready, Steady, Go" on the same day.

Flipside is "Is It Love" from

the Gerry and the Pacemakers film "Ferry Cross The Mersey."

Cilla will also have her first album out in the New Year—on February 1. With tracks arranged by Johnnie Spence, Johnny Scott—who backs her new single—and George Martin, the album is titled "Cilla."

THREE more records join the rich Christmas harvest of Silver Discs awarded by DISC WEEKLY this week.

P. J. Proby, Freddie and The Dreamers and The Bachelors have each notched up over 250,000 sales with "Somewhere," "I Understand" and "No Arms Can Ever Hold You."

It is the second silver award for the controversial headline-hogging P.J., and it comes for his most-discussed record yet. "Somewhere" from the "West Side Story" was released on

... FOR BACHELORS, P. J. AND FREDDIE

November 27, and reached its highest rating so far at 10 on December 19.

Freddie also scores his second silver honour for an unusually serious (for him) number. It was released on October 25 and made DISC WEEKLY's Top Thirty on November 7 at 29, rising to No.

5 this week.

The Bachelors complete a quartet of silver successes with "No Arms Can Ever Hold You" released on November 27 and entering our chart at 27 on December 5.

This week it attains its highest position at No. 4.

Sandie turns down U.S., Australia

SANDIE SHAW has had to turn down offers to tour Australia in the New Year with The Rolling Stones and America with Gene Pitney!

"The offer to join The Stones came from Australia only on Friday," her agent, Evelyn Taylor told DISC WEEKLY. "But Sandie had too many commitments in Britain to undertake either trip."

Sandie will enjoy the distinction of being interviewed on Richard Dimbleby's "Panorama Of The Year" programme on New Year's Eve. The show, which runs for one-and-a-half hours from 10.15 p.m., is a special edition of "Panorama."

Sandie Shaw joins Adam Faith and the Roulettes for a nationwide tour which opens on February 21 at the De Montfort Hall, Leicester. The tour runs through to the end of March.

Honeycombs lose a guitarist

THE HONEYCOMBS leave for Scandinavia on December 30, playing in Stockholm, Helsinki, Copenhagen and Malmo. They have a TV spot in Stockholm on January 8 and return to Britain the following day.

After a short break, The Honeycombs fly out to Australia for their three-and-a-half week tour in the package show including The Kinks and Manfred Mann.

Rhythm guitarist Martin Murray left the group last weekend. According to a spokesman for The Honeycombs: "Martin has a pretty strong character, and there's been some disagreement for some time."

Dusty cuts her next single

DUSTY SPRINGFIELD is recording material for a new single, a new EP and the completion of her next LP this week, following the clash with the South African government which cut short her tour there.

The titles being cut will not be duplicated in the EP, the LP or on the single.

Dusty, who will star in ABC TV's "Pop Spot" on January 2, will visit Italy on January 23 for four days of guesting at the San Remo Song Festival.

New look for 'Beat Room'

BARRY LANGFORD'S "Beat Room" on BBC-2 will get an entirely new look and new title in the New Year. The programme will be entirely revamped from the January 11 edition, which is pre-recorded on the 7th.

In future, there will be no resident group on the show, and more pop artists will be featured—performing their latest hit.

ANOTHER FREDDIE FILM

PLANS are in progress for Freddie and the Dreamers to star in a full-length comedy feature film, the shooting of which would begin sometime in May.

The group, who are starring with The Beatles in their Christmas show which opens next week, will be taking elocution and drama lessons from a tutor at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and also dancing lessons.

At the moment the boys are discussing script ideas, including one that the film should be made on the lines of the old Keystone Cons dramas.

BOUNTIFUL BEATLES PREY FOR CHARITY

THE BEATLES are celebrating Christmas and the end of 1964 with some more fantastic record sales statistics. Their current Number One single "I Feel Fine" has now passed the 1,250,000 sales mark and their fourth LP "Beatles For Sale" has exceeded 750,000 sales. AND THOSE ARE THE FIGURES FOR BRITAIN ONLY!

The boys started intensive rehearsals on Monday for their Christmas Show at the Hammersmith Odeon. The 8.30 p.m. performance on December 29 will be in aid of the Brady Clubs and Settlement Charity in London's East End.

John Lennon has been booked for the first of a new fortnightly BBC-2 TV series entitled "Not Only . . ." on January 9. He will read some of his poems and also appear in a film sequence. Beatles manager Brian Epstein will take part in BBC-1's "Panorama Of The Year" programme on December 31.

The special Christmas message for fans recorded by The Beatles for release through their fan club has hit the 70,000 mark—5,000 more than the official total of the club membership at the last count.

Marianne for U.S.

MARIANNE FAITHFULL is in line to make a promotional trip to America around the third week in January to tie in with the Stateside release of a new single specially written for her by Jackie De Shannon.

Meanwhile, Jackie De Shannon has already written a single, which will be issued in Britain in February. Title is "Come And Stay With Me."

Marianne specially asked Jackie to write a song for her when the couple met during Jackie's recent trip to Britain.

Marianne will also have two LPs—her first to date—out in the New Year. First, a pop album, should be available during the first half of February. The other, an authentic folk album, will be released in March.

Marianne pays her first visit to Paris on January 5 for two concerts at the Chatelet Theatre.

Christy Minstrels with Epstein

BEATLES impresario Brian Epstein's first venture with an American act begins on January 7 when The New Christy Minstrels arrive on the first leg of a European tour.

The nine-piece hootenanny group will star in ATV's "Sunday Night At The London Palladium" on January 10, and will record two 30-minute shows for the Light Programme. They will also telefilm four 30-minute programmes for Southern TV. No transmission dates are yet set.

CBS are releasing another New Christy single entitled "Down The Road I Go" on January 1.

POP * PEOPLE

● THE KINKS will appear live on the American show "Hullabaloo" from New York when they spend three days there from February 12.

This will be on their way back from their Australian tour, which they undertake in January. They will also be doing three days of appearances in Singapore and Hong Kong en route from Australia.

● ROY ORBISON, who arrives in this country for another tour in February, will be bringing over his own backing group, and will also be accompanied by the girl group, The Three Quarters.

Impresario Arthur Howes is negotiating Continental dates for Roy after the tour finishes. These will include Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, Holland and Switzerland.

● TWINKLE and MIKE PRESTON have been added to the 10-week tour by THE BACHELORS, which opens at Gloucester on March 8. Twinkle also appears with The Rolling Stones on their Irish dates in January.

● MARK WYNTER has been signed to join the Morecambe and Wise show at Blackpool's ABC Theatre, which opens a 16-week run on June 5.

It seems unlikely that CILLA BLACK will appear on the show, although it had been rumoured she was being considered.

Mark Wynter scored a big success at the ABC Theatre last year when he dipped for a short while for FRANK IFFIELD during Frank's brief illness with laryngitis.

● THE ROCKIN' BERRIES have their next single "What In The World's Come Over You" released on January 8, and their first LP will come out a week later.

They will star in "Ready, Steady, Go" on the release date of the single, and will appear in cabaret at London's Pigalle on January 24 in aid of a cancer research fund. The group is in line for appearances in Scandinavia in late March.

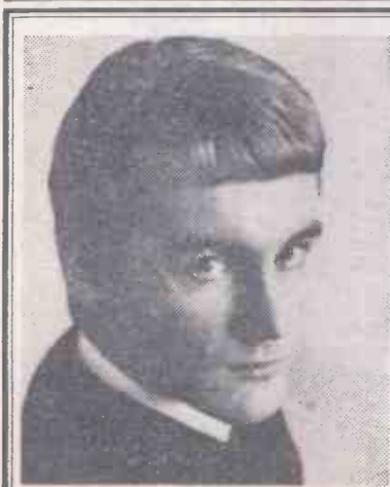
● THE MOODY BLUES hit parading with "Go Now" at No. 25 this week, are set to appear in BBC-1's "Vision On" today (December 23); "Ready, Steady, Go" (Christmas Day); "Three Go Round" (Southern TV) on December 30, and "Top Of The Pops" (31). Their first New Year small screen date will be "Thank Your Lucky Stars" on January 16.

Singles from Mary Wells, Beach Boys

MANFRED MANN, The Beach Boys, Billy Fury, Mary Wells, Rolf Harris and The Four Tops all have records among the new releases.

On January 1, Billy Fury's "I'm Lost Without You" is issued, and on January 8 Manfred Mann have their new disc "Come Tomorrow" released. It is an American original, backed with a Tom McGuinness composition "What Did I Do Wrong."

Other January 8 releases include The Beach Boys' American smash "Dance, Dance, Dance"; Mary Wells' "Ain't It The Truth"—her first non-Tamla recording—and Rolf Harris's "The Five Young Apprentices."



NOTE!

JAMES TAMLIN

ARRIVING

1/1/65

P. J. PROBY

**LAURIE HENSHAW TALKS TO THE
MAN WHO IS GOING TO GIVE
HIM THAT CHANCE.**

EVER since he stormed into DISC WEEKLY's Top Thirty with "Hold Me," P. J. Proby, the buckle-shoed, beribboned singer from Houston, Texas, has been a bit of a "problem boy" behind the show-biz scene.

Only a fortnight ago, he confided to DISC WEEKLY: "Promoters are regarding me as a big risk who never turns up or who walks out of shows."

Now, in two short weeks, the picture has changed drastically. P.J. has been signed to co-star with Cilla Black in a three-week, nationwide tour opening on January 29 at Croydon.

This will be the first tour Proby has played in Britain — the first opportunity to meet the loyal fans in person.

fifteen years

Impresario Arthur Howes has stepped in to showcase Proby on a tour that, in Arthur's own words: "Could make him one of the biggest stars of 1965."

Arthur Howes has been a top impresario for 15 years. He has staged tours starring The Beatles, Cliff Richard and The Shadows, Gene Pitney, the Everly Brothers. He is bringing over Roy Orbison in February.

He is tough, shrewd — and knows show business inside out. This is why he has ventured to book Proby where others have shied away. Why has he done this?

'real talent'

'BECAUSE I think he has tremendous talent. I've known him for a long time and I know just what he can do.

Maybe he needs some handling, but show me an artist with real talent who can't be "difficult" at times.

I had booked P.J. on a couple of engagements during the summer. But I think it was his recent appearance on "Ready,

—now comes his big chance to prove himself

Steady, Go" that clinched matters. He put on a really tremendous performance. If I had to pinpoint three outstanding qualities of P.J. I would say they are these:

He has a great image with the youngsters. He has a really fine voice.

And he will go to immense trouble to perfect his act. I have known him spend weeks on his performance. That's why I am giving him a completely free hand to work out his act on this tour.

I know that P.J. wants a chance to "prove himself" with the fans in all parts of the country — to meet them personally. They really love him; and he projects such a thrilling personality. He positively magnetises any youngster who comes into contact with him.

I know one or two people will think I am taking a bit of a chance with P.J. Proby. But I wouldn't like to say that any difficulties that have arisen would be due more to one side than the other.

Anyway, if there are any chances to be taken — then I'm glad to take them.

I'm prepared to give P.J. a fair crack of the whip. And I know I'll be repaid in full when my prediction that he'll be one of the really Big Ones of the New Year comes true.

He's big now, of course. That's why I'm putting him out at the top of the bill with Cilla.

But when thousands of fans see him in action in theatres up and down the country — then I think his star will blaze brighter than ever before. 9

HERE'S WHAT THE FANS SENT!

CHRISTMAS is a time for receiving presents—and for giving them as all of you have shown this week, for you have simply showered your favourite stars with gifts. And some of them must have cost a bomb, too!

For the past week or so presents and cards have been arriving by the sackload, and some of them have been really way-out.

For instance, The Fourmost, none of whom is exactly noted as a lightweight, have received from one devoted fan a sweater big enough for three of them — or big enough for Mike Millward," said Billy Hatton.

Cliff Bennett's friends certainly know of his addiction to Canadian Cheddar cheese and now the news seems to have travelled to the fans. One large parcel which arrived for Cliff contained a 7lb. wedge that should

keep him eating well into the New Year.

Tommy Quickly's toy dog, Arthur, seems to have come off better for Christmas presents than Tommy himself. Fourteen pounds of dog biscuits have arrived for Arthur but said Tommy: "He's off biscuits at the moment, so I'm saving them until February when I'll be getting a real Griffon."

Gerry Marsden made quite sure he got what he wanted for Christmas. "I've given myself a new Volvo 1800 sports car," he said.

Cliff Richard told me that he'd much prefer it if his fans contributed to charity instead of sending him presents, but his fan club has still been inundated. Ties and handkerchiefs have come from all over the country and one fan even sent a large cake by rail.

PETER SANDS

"I think he has tremendous talent."



I CAN BE SERIOUS IF I WANT TO, SAYS FREDDIE

FREDDIE GARRITY perched a huge cushion on his head, beamed a big smile and said: "Serious, of course I can be serious, I always am aren't I?" Then he went off into loud cackling laughter.

I was at BBC's "Top Of The Pops" studio to find out just whether Freddie and his zany Dreamers ever could be serious.

Well, I found out that the Manchester lad was in fact very serious about a number of things.

dedicated

"Strange as it may seem," he said, "I'm serious about making people laugh. I'm deadly serious about the business—show business, that is."

"For instance, whenever the Dreamers and I are thinking about a new number to do in our act, we sit down and really discuss it. We decide whether it will go down well and what sort of routine we

can do with it to give it more visual appeal.

"I'm dedicated to show business and I approach it as a serious business in the same way as a lawyer or a businessman approaches his work."

"I suppose I'm quite a quiet person really. I'm not really as mad as I appear on the stage—unless I get one of my daft moods on. Then I can really go mad and I'm just the same Freddie Garrity that you see on the stage."

distracted

Freddie, still limping slightly after his cartilage operation recently, paused and then went on: "Another thing I'm really serious about is my golf. I hate being interrupted while I'm playing. While I'm on that golf course I'm really concentrating and don't want to be distracted by anything, even signing autographs."

Good natured Freddie, at present high in DISC WEEKLY'S charts with "I Understand" is a hard man to get annoyed. But one thing is guaranteed to ruffle his feathers—interruptions while he's eating.

"You asked if I'm ever serious. Well, I am deadly serious about eating. I love my food and tend to get a bit niggled if my meals are interrupted."

"It happens sometimes, though I try

not to show my annoyance. Autograph hunters sometimes ask me to stop eating to sign books. Still, I suppose that if they weren't asking for autographs I'd be even more worried."

Freddie is adamant about one thing—when he gets home to his new luxury bungalow near Manchester and closes the door, he wants some peace and quiet. "I don't think people should come knocking on stars' doors at all hours. If they do, they should be content with just an autograph and not expect the red carpet to be rolled out for them," he said.

crazy mood

Freddie did reveal also that he has in fact recorded another straight ballad already.

"I've cut it, but I've no idea when it will be released or even if it's to be a single or a number on an LP or EP. We'll have to wait and see."

With that, Freddie relapsed back into his crazy mood and jumping up for a photographer, giving his wide-eyed, bespectacled grin.

YES, HE CAN BE SERIOUS, BUT NOT FOR LONG, I'M CERTAIN.

Alan Walsh

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WHY I WANT TO BE A WRITER

BY CHARLIE WATTS

CHARLIE WATTS sat in a rocking chair in his flat and as Miles Davies played on the hi-fi set, we drank tea out of huge china cups and talked about . . . Charlie the author and not Charlie The Rolling Stone.

Charlie and his pretty blonde wife, Shirley, live at the top of a block of flats overlooking Paddington. Everything there is white and scrubbed wood with relief given by geranium-coloured curtains and an orange sofa.

It looks like something out of a rather super woman's magazine. But then Charlie says that "the cat nearly breaks its neck every morning by sliding on the rugs on the highly-polished floors" and it becomes home.

The cat is called Louise and it is very definitely part of the Watts family.

In this atmosphere — far from the screaming fans and the overheated clubs—Charlie Watts writes.

It has probably come as a surprise to everyone that of all The Stones it should be Charlie who has turned literary. On stage he sits bashing away at the drums, looking sad and mournful. He usually speaks very little.

But, when you get to know him you find that Charlie is one of the nicest of all The Stones and certainly the most easy-going.

He has an amazingly low opinion of himself and his efforts. But when the conversation is on a subject he likes—like antiques, or designing, writing or jazz, he will talk for hours very thoughtfully.

Despite his own opinion of himself other people think differently and so next week Charlie Watts' first book will be published.

OTHERS

I say first because, in fact, other books by Charlie are near the publishing stage. This first book, "Ode To A High Flying Bird" is about jazzman Charlie "Bird" Parker.

It is, rather like Charlie himself, out of the ordinary, and he has written and drawn the story of his favourite jazzman in the style of a children's book.

"I wrote these books actually about two years ago—for my own pleasure. I had no thought," said Charlie, "about publishing them. I just did them and put them away."

"I didn't want to write a book

talking to
**PENNY
VALENTINE**

on Parker—there are hundreds already. Mine is written with children in mind. You can present things to kids in a different way and they understand you see, but anyone could read it really.

"The other books I've done are a graphic art one for kids, and another on very complicated prose."

STUDIO

Charlie has put aside one room in his flat expressly for working in. It's a sort of studio with a drawing-board in it, but he says he finds it terribly hard to work there.

"It takes great discipline you see—and I haven't got any," he said and stared at the large white plaster head of a horse that Shirley "pinched" from art school.

"I'm having to re-do the other books before they can be printed. Funnily enough it's easier when I'm working with the boys and we're playing a really rough date somewhere. I think the sign of a good writer is the fact that they can write anywhere—in the middle of New York if necessary. I can't. And I'm not a very good artist either. Shirley is much better."

BOOKS

Shirley blushed and curled up on the sofa as Charlie put another record on. A shelf behind her was stacked with books. Most of them, Charlie said, were Shirley's.

"Someone saw the stuff I'd done, you see, and they wanted to publish it but the deal all fell through. Then this American chap said he wanted to

print the Parker one and I began to think in terms of actually doing work to be published."

What, I wondered, did the rest of The Stones think about Charlie's sudden entrance into the writing field?

"Well, they've known for years. I used to turn up at the flat with all my graphic equipment in this sharp case and my very sharp clothes on and ask if there was anything doing with the group for that evening—that was when I was first with them."

FUNNY

"And if there was I'd leave all my stuff. They thought that was very funny. Of course, I got chucked out of my job when I played with them full time!"

Charlie's modesty about his own talents goes so far that there are no pictures by him in the flat at all. The only ones on the white walls are lovely wild drawings of horses that Shirley did in pastel frames. He also got very embarrassed when the publishers informed him he would have to have his photograph on the back cover of the book.

MODEST

"It's such a nice cover, too," he said almost sadly. "I mean, what do they want my picture for?"

If any more proof were needed about Charlie's unbelievable modesty it came just before I left the two of them to their shopping. As he was seeing me to the door Charlie said:

"I think I should explain about the preface to the book because I think it looks a bit pretentious," he said.

The preface, in fact, reads like this: "This story was compiled by one Charlie to a late and great Charlie." But originally Charlie had put: "This story was compiled by one unknown Charlie to a late and great Charlie."

The publishers rightly declared that Charlie Watts was certainly NOT unknown!

Now the Moody Blues

WHEN a Moody Blue is coming to see you, you expect some hairy, dishevelled character with a permanent fit of the sulks and huge chips on either shoulder.

At least I did, judging purely by their name. But when drummer Graeme Edge walked into the office, he wasn't hairy, dishevelled, or sulking, and his shoulders were quite normal.

And Graeme certainly has an edge where fashion is concerned. Sharp overcoat, good mod type shirt with knitted tie microscopically knotted, and fashionably slim trousers without cutting off his blood circulation. His haircut is modern without being shaggy, and he favours longish sideboards.

"We're delighted about the record," he told me, referring to "Go Now" which is now going like the proverbial sales bomb. "It's all happened in the last three weeks really. We're specially pleased because it proves that the public are ready for things like 'Go Now.'"

"We" are completed by Mike Pinder (piano); Denny Laine (lead guitar); Clint Warwick (bass guitar), and Ray Thomas (harmonica, flute, tambourine, maracas and "general factotum.")

Graeme explained why they're specially pleased. "There's been a lot of 'bull' talked about rhythm and blues," he declared. "Rhythm and blues is the Negro pop music, in effect, but people here have been applying the name to what is really Country blues—something very different. We tried to get an original sound on the record, which isn't easy for groups. It's a Viennese waltz tempo, with Mike doing a great job on the piano introduction and solo."

Big-sounding vocals

The Moody Blues believe in big-sounding vocal harmonies and big-sounding instrumental work. They're happy because their audiences listen to what they do.

Pianist Mike Pinder (no connection whatever with Searcher Mike Pender) is the comedian of the group, and keeps the Blues in stitches regularly.

"Our bass guitarist Clint is like all bass guitarists," grinned Graeme. "Solid as a rock musically. He's the only married member of the group."

Mike Pinder is a recording and electronic type expert and enthusiast. He wants to open a recording studio one day.

The Moody Blues come from Birmingham, and have been together since May 2. Back home they were deadly rivals, each playing in a different group.

"The word was that Birmingham would take over from Liverpool on the beat scene," grinned Graeme. "A & R men came to town, and recorded everybody and everything in sight. But it didn't happen, and groups folded up right left and centre."

"But the folding up did bring us together." N.H.

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Que sera sera

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GIRLS! ARE YOU A BACHELOR TYPE?



● DEC CLUSKY'S girl must be quiet and very understanding.

COULD you marry a Bachelor, girls? A singing, playing member of The Bachelors, that is—not the type of bachelor that can be found next door. Well, between the three—Dec and Con Clusky and John Stokes, whose hit disc, "No Arms Can Ever Hold You," is racing up DISC WEEKLY'S charts—there's only one left. That's Dec, and to catch him you'd have to fit into a pretty exclusive mould.

To find out just what type of girl would fit into Dec's idea of the perfect woman, I quizzed the pop star at the BBC's Manchester studios during rehearsals for last week's "Top Of The Pops."

Over a cup of tea with the three Irish lads, I asked Dec to give us a run-down on the type of chicks he favours.

by
Alan Walsh

Wild life

"Well," said Dec, with a slow smile. "The first priority over all is that she must be quiet and very, very understanding. After all, we do so much travelling and this is such a wild sort of life in many ways that she'd have to be very understanding—or go mad!"

"She'd also have to have a pretty keen sense of appreciation of show business and the sort of demands it makes on the people in it. She couldn't expect me to keep regular hours or be home for tea at a certain time or anything like that. It just wouldn't be possible."

"For this reason, I reckon she'd have to be connected with show business in some ways

herself. Otherwise, I just don't see it working."

I asked Dec to be more specific about the type of girl he'd choose.

"I go for blondes mostly, in fact all the girls I've ever been out with seem to have been blondes. Don't know why, I just go for them that's all!"

Clothes sense

"I also think that clothes sense is of prime importance to a girl. She must buy clothes which really suit her—and buy good quality clothes. I'd sooner a girl paid a lot of money for one good dress than pay the same amount for three cheap-looking dresses. But I must stress that the clothes have to suit the girl!"

'I GO FOR BLONDES MOSTLY'



She couldn't expect me to keep regular hours. For this reason, she'd have to be connected with the business in some way, says DEC.

"I think that girls should really take trouble in buying the type of clothes which suit them. Good clothes can make even a rather unattractive girl seem glamorous."

"She should be of medium build, with a good figure and I also like my girl friends to be intelligent and good conversationalists."

"I like to talk sometimes and so she must be able to carry on an intelligent conversation. But I don't like girls who talk just for the sake of talking. If I want to be quiet, she should respect that, the same as I would."

"We were born in a city, and I like city living so I'd prefer a girl who likes living in a town, too. The rural type would be no use!"

Eating out

"I also prefer girls who like to go out and have a good time, not the stay-at-home type. Of course, I wouldn't want to go out all the time, but generally speaking, I like to go out for my meals. I'd expect the girl to enjoy eating out, too."

So if you're in the business and match up to all the requirements that Dec sets out here, perhaps there's a chance for you yet!

But what of the other two "Bachelors?" — The married ones! Tall, dark and handsome Con summed up his preference like this: "I like independent blondes!"

John's comment was short, but loaded with potential: "I prefer the female type!"

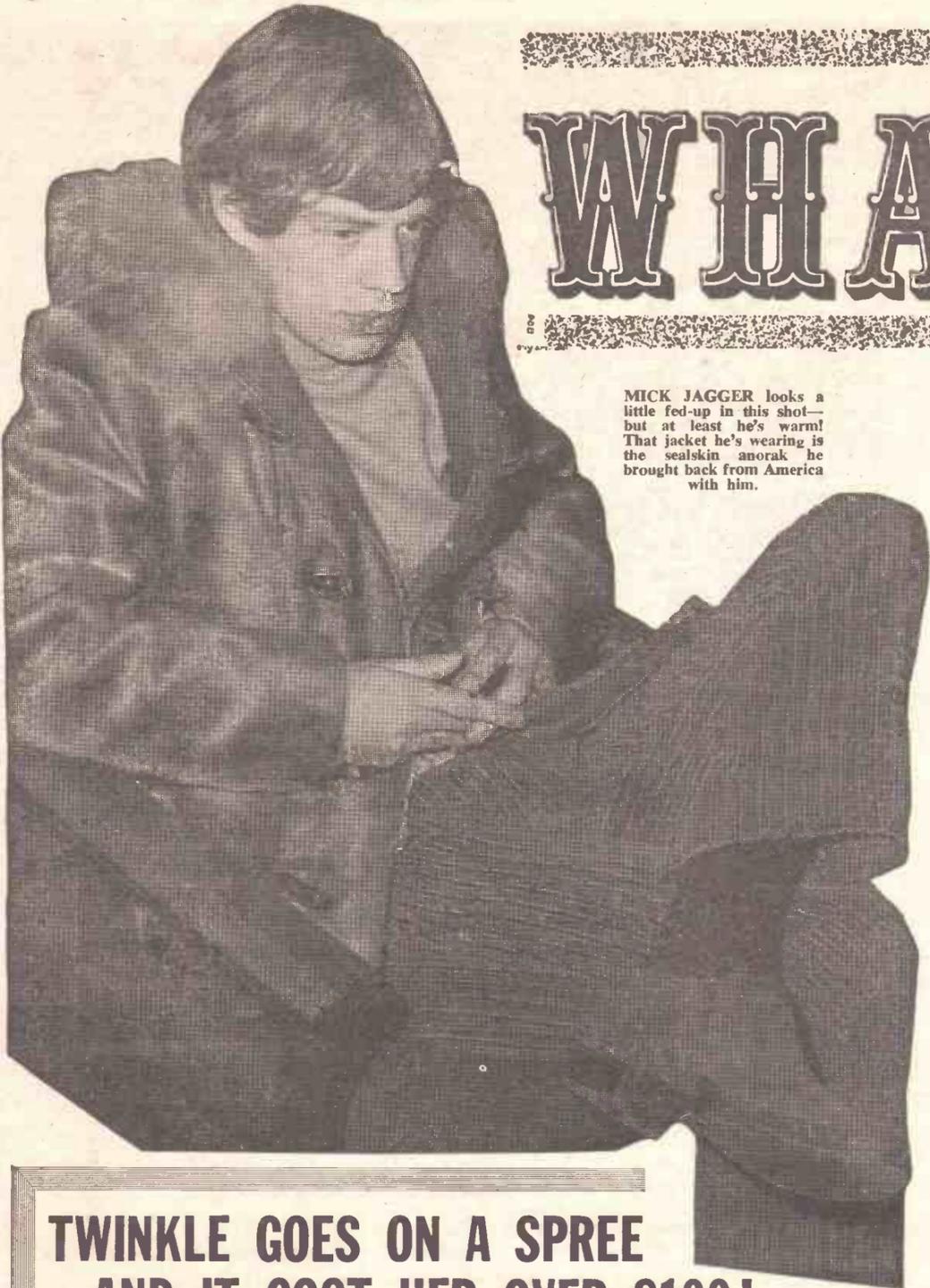
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Andy Stewart
Heather bells will bloom again

H.M.V. POP1376

WHAT'S POPPIN'



MICK JAGGER looks a little fed-up in this shot—but at least he's warm! That jacket he's wearing is the sealskin anorak he brought back from America with him.

A Stone and a DJ fly to The Animals in Paris

I POPPED over to Paris last week to see The Animals, top the bill at the Olympia, and who should I meet there but Brian Jones and DJ Alan Freeman who had gone over for a few days' break and had decided to drop in on The Animals at the same time.

We all went along to a place called the Biloquet "a kind of Ad-Lib with a tent in the middle" according to Eric! It is also one of the most popular clubs in Paris.

When the management noticed that they had five Animals and one Rolling Stone on the premises, they asked for a performance, and they got one. It was three a.m. before we left there!

Precisely three hours later Alan Freeman and Brian Jones were trudging red-eyed through the morning mist looking for a taxi to take them to the airport. They both had commitments in England.

Big demand

The Animals were originally booked for one show at the Olympia, but the demand for tickets was so great that they were asked to do two performances.

The first show was a screaming (and I mean that literally) success, but it was nothing compared to the second. They opened with "Road Runner," and when they jumped into "House of The Rising Sun" with a red spotlight on Eric, the audience sang the entire song with him in English.

But the number that really took the roof off the Olympia was "Talking About You." For this encore Hilton wore a gendarme hat and the French audience went wild.



The ANIMALS really sent the French audience at the Olympia Wild.

ROD ARGENT, of The Zombies, tells me that one of the group, Paul Atkinson, has suddenly discovered that he can get a better sound in the recording studio with a guitar he bought five years ago for only £15 than he can with his latest £240 Gretsch model.

"It's fantastic," he said. "The other day we were cutting some tracks when I found I was getting a better sound from the old guitar. It turned out to be just right for studio work."

But the new one is just right for reproducing the sound on stage.

★ ★ ★

P. J. PROBY has moved into his new home in London, but is not saying where it is. "All I will say," he told me, "is that it is a four-bedroomed, three-storey house and is better than the Knightsbridge home I had."

P.J. has plans to record another album with MD

Johnnie Spence. Proby described it as an LP of b'g-voice love songs.

★ ★ ★

"MARCH Of The Mods" man Joe Loss has received a very flattering letter from Ghana.

It's from a young boy who said that he had a brother named Joe Loss "after our favourite bandleader."

I HEARD a French lesson with a difference last week... Jimmy Savile was the teacher, Sandie Shaw the pupil!

"It all began," Sandie told me, curling up in her dressing-room chair, "when I told Jimmy I wanted to go to Paris for Christmas. Last time I was there I didn't have a chance to see the things I wanted to. So Jimmy offered to help me brush up on the language."

"She's a very good pupil too," said her professor. "Of

course, it does help with me being a native of France, you know..."

★ ★ ★

I ASKED Howard Davidson of The Goobledagoos how they came to pick such a way-out name.

Said Howard: "We thought up about 40 names and couldn't decide which one to have. So we wrote them out on slips of paper and put them in a hat and 'Goobledagoos' was the first to come out!"

"We used to be called the Pacemakers and then The Seekers, but I gather we had some opposition!"

★ ★ ★

BLUE Jean, Ralph Ellis, has a new hobby—collecting weapons. "I've become very interested in old weapons, particularly antique fire arms and I am prepared to buy them from people if they are in good condition," he said.

TWINKLE GOES ON A SPREE —AND IT COST HER OVER £100!

TWINKLE has just been on a spending spree that set her back over £100 and added five new dresses to her wardrobe!

"I went mad," she told me. "In addition to this dress I'm wearing, I bought another one like it but in a different colour, a white leather suit, a chiffon smock and a long chiffon dress completely embroidered with flowers. I'll be using them all on television

shows and any appearances I do in the near future. I'll probably use the dresses for ordinary wear as well, though I'll keep the leather suit exclusively for the stage. They get dirty so quickly with ordinary use."

She told me that she only had two major ambitions at present—to get a No. 1 with a number she has written herself, and to get married!

● The BBC, ATV and Radio Luxembourg were united over the weekend by DISC WEEKLY. Each one featured one or more of the Silver Discs which we present to the stars when they chalk up a quarter million sales of a single in this country. The BBC presented Matt Monro with his Silver Disc for "Walk Away" on television's Billy Cotton Band Show, ATV used Silver Discs in their Armchair Theatre play, while Radio Luxembourg presented P. J. Proby with his award for "Somewhere" at the recording of "Friday Spectacular" due for hearing on Christmas Day.

● ROCKIN' BERRIES bass guitarist Roy Austin is 21 on Dec. 27.

● Mike Wilsh of the FOUR PENNIES lost a gold signet ring when it was dragged from his finger at Doncaster recently as the group fought their way through a crowd of fans. If the fan who has the ring reads this—would he or she please return it. Mike badly wants it back!!

● Bob Lang, bass guitarist of THE MINDBENDERS, has bought a new mini—the second

I HEAR THAT

in a few weeks. He had a very old car which he drove until it broke down. Then he bought a mini—but crashed after having had it only a few days.

● JAN DOUGLAS sprained her ankle after a performance in Huddersfield and has had to cancel the rest of her northern dates.

● Ex-Beatles Press Officer JO BERGMAN is doing very well for herself as a publicist in Paris.

● America's ROBERT GOULET makes all his own clothes.

● HENRY MANCINI comes out with the theme music from the film "Dear Heart" on January 1.

● BILLY FURY is to be accompanied by a big band on the Larry Parnes spring tour, possibly Joe Loss. The reason for this change is that Billy has

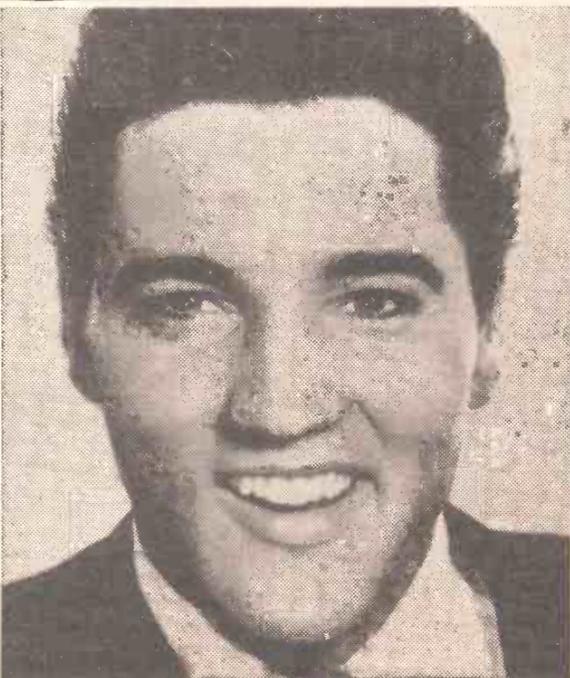
been using big bands on records including "I'm Lost Without you," his next, which is out on January 1.

● FOUR PLUS ONE are doing a cover version of The Stones' U.S. hit "Time Is On My Side."

● BRIAN POOLE AND THE TREMELOES did the backing for the demonstration record of Bobby Blue's first release, "Don't Make Me (Fall In Love With You)" which is released on January 1.

● DAVE CLARK'S U.S. hit "Everybody Knows" is released here on January 8.

● BRIAN JONES and Eric Burdon were among the star-studded audience who watched Rufus ("Everyone else sings the Dog—I am the Dog") Thomas make the last British appearance of his current visit at 3.15 last Saturday morning at London's Flamingo Club.



ELVIS PRESLEY BLUE CHRISTMAS RCA 1430

A TERRIFIC LP FROM EL'S LATEST F

ROUSTABOUT Original Cast Record

One track heart; Wheels on my h Little Egypt; Poison Ivy League; Hard knocks & 6 o

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RCA VICTOR



TAKE A PEEK
BEHIND THE
POP SCENE

see

BACHELORS' MUM JOINS THEM FOR CHRISTMAS



This is Pitney

by ROBIN BRITTEN—the man whose job it was to see that Gene's visit was a swinging success, and the man who knows him better than most.

THE secret of Gene Pitney's success? You can sum it up in one word. PROFESSIONALISM. The quality was evident on Gene's five-week tour of Britain—both on stage and off.

He was the completely polished performer before his thousands of adoring fans; and he was absolutely the "man in charge" during his professional activities far removed from the glamour of the footlights.

In fact, if any person had to project a new image of a pop star in the New Year, then I would say that Gene Pitney is the ideal man to represent the New Era.

Indeed, he brings almost a "young executive" approach to the business of pop singing.

But if this sounds too clinical, let me illustrate Gene's essentially human approach to the people he meets.

He is never too busy to meet the fans. Though, like all pop idols these days, he has to take reasonable safety precautions while on tour to ensure that he is not killed.

And this was nearly the case at Bristol, when two fans got hold of each end of his tie and nearly strangled him!

So, if we have to make plans to whisk Gene away from the stage door—and often use subterfuge to do it—then I'm sure you understand, especially if you have already been given a fair chance to see him for autographs or pictures. Or perhaps to get a glimpse of him backstage during or after a performance.

This is where Gene reveals his understanding and friendliness.

Of course, it would have been impossible for him to ask all his fans into his dressing-room. But if someone wanted to see him for an autograph or photo that was for a really deserving cause—handicapped children, for instance—then I have never known him to refuse such a request.

And on such occasions, time didn't matter. Often, he would give them so much time, he would leave himself only a few seconds to get on stage!

And this, in itself, illustrates his complete command of himself. And of his act. It was so perfectly rehearsed beforehand, that everything would go off without a hitch.

But more than efficient planning is required to make a great pop star.

An artist can only build on the talent he has. And Gene had plenty to build on. Not only a great voice, but a marvellous aptitude for "reading" a song—an aptitude at projecting a lyric in a dynamic manner with every means at his command.

He also had an unerring sense at picking a song. He will listen to other people's advice. Then he will make up his own mind.

This applies to the song itself, and to the method of interpretation—right through to the finished recording.

NEW
AND
REB
SINGLES
FROM



GENE CHANDLER

BLESS OUR LOVE

STATESIDE SS364

FATS DOMINO

HEARTBREAK HILL

H.M.V. POP1370

GEORGIE FAME

YEH, YEH

COLUMBIA DB7428

MARVIN GAYE

HOW SWEET IT IS
(to be loved by you)

STATESIDE SS360

MARVIN GAYE AND
KIM WESTON

WHAT GOOD AM I
WITHOUT YOU

STATESIDE SS363

MARTHA AND THE
VANDELLAS

DANCING IN THE STREET

STATESIDE SS345

THE MIRACLES

THAT'S WHAT LOVE IS
MADE OF

STATESIDE SS353

THE TEMPTATIONS

WHY YOU WANNA
MAKE ME BLUE

STATESIDE SS348

EARL VAN DYKE

SOUL STOMP

STATESIDE SS357

THE VELVETTES

NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK

STATESIDE SS361

KIM WESTON

A LITTLE MORE LOVE

STATESIDE SS359

E.M.I. RECORDS LTD.,
E.M.I. HOUSE, 20 MANCHESTER SQUARE, LONDON W.1

So far, he has collected some German swords and daggers from the two World Wars. "Now I'm on the look-out for a set of matching duelling pistols," said Ralph.

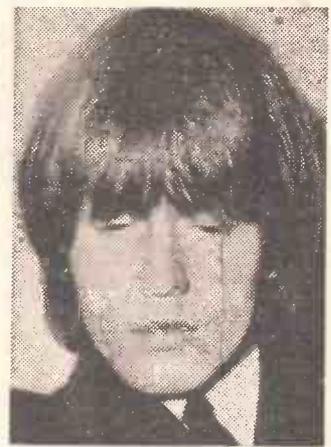
★ ★ ★

FOURMOST Billy Hutton is the proud owner of a big new American car—a Ford Lincoln Mercury. He's had it for a few weeks now and it replaces his black Galaxie.

"Fully automatic and it's a much better car," he said. The rest of the group have a Rover (Dave Lovelady) a Studebaker (Mike Millward), and a Mark VII Jaguar (Brian O'Hara).

★ ★ ★

I SPOKE to Tommy Quickly just after he got back from America and you know what struck him most? "It's so TIDY" he told me. "There's ash-trays sticking out everywhere you look!"



BRIAN JONES — He saw the Animals in Paris

EVERY time I speak to one of The Bachelors they seem to have added to their collection of items that they carry around with them.

Con now takes a movie camera everywhere with him, but brother Dec prefers to take still pictures.

Incidentally, Dec is very much in fashion at present because he will probably be having his tonsils out when he can find the time in the New Year.

Today (Wednesday) Dec celebrates his 23rd birthday with a party in Birmingham where they open in pantomime tomorrow. His mother will be flying over specially from Dublin for the party and will stay in Birmingham over Christmas.

John Stokes has been asked to play in the Show Biz XI football team because before he entered show business he was considered one of the most promising footballers in Ireland.

Graeme Edge, now drummer with The Moody Blues, started in show biz as road manager with another group. Then one evening their drummer quit. With no time to find a replacement, Graeme—who had once or twice had a go on the drums while setting them up—took his place.

"I was absolutely terrified," he told me. "But everything went off alright and I decided to take up drumming seriously." Later he joined The Moody Blues.

Peter Thomson



Keith Richard — by a reader

THIS sketch of Keith Richard was done by reader Jeff Baker of Westward Road, Boughton Heath, Chester.

Jeff has done a number of drawings of this sort of pop stars. His interest? He is the drummer with a Chester group that call themselves The Chanters.

He has been a reader of this paper since it was launched nearly seven years ago.

Describing the way he draws, he says: "I doodle around until I'm satisfied then work it up into a finished drawing."

ESLEY

ASK ME

RCA 1422

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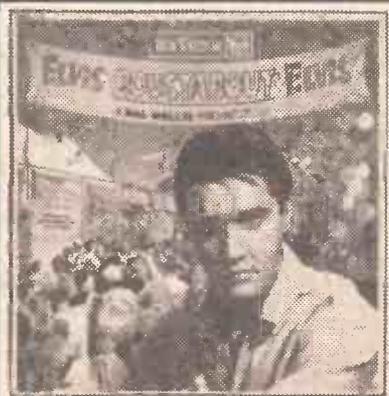
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POP SHOP



— what's new at the record bar

Billy to pioneer the big band sound

VERDICT

TOP TIP—Heading for the Thirty

- *****—Excellent
- ****—Very good
- ***—Good
- **—Ordinary
- *—Poor

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"SPORTING RECORD." A newspaper devoted mainly to horse racing and football, and angled to aid those who bet regularly on racing, on Football Pools and on Fixed Odds football coupons. Racing service, under Wilfred Vernon, includes detailed information from correspondents in those parts of the country where the main racing stables are situated and summaries of past racing with a view to pin-pointing future winners. Price 6d. Place a regular order with your Newsagents now.

Billy Fury

I'm Lost Without You; You Better Believe If Baby (Decca F12048)

THIS new recording comes out almost six years to the week of Billy's first single for Decca—"Maybe Tomorrow" and is his 24th single for the company. If it reaches the charts, as I'm sure it will, it will be his 15th consecutive hit. Billy has a big band sound behind him and says he's thinking of pioneering on his spring tour by taking a big band around the country with him.

VERDICT: An American ballad "I'm Lost Without You" is a slow song which Billy builds powerfully in front of a lush accompaniment directed by Mike Leander. It is a fairly long side, but Billy will keep feminine attention all the way. The turnover contrasts with a steady beat and Billy snaps this song across to a more tutsi backing which includes girl group and twangy guitar.

Sue Thompson

Paper Tiger; Mama Don't Cry At My Wedding (Hickory 1284)*****

PAPER TIGER is a neat idea chirpily sung by Sue to a stomping beat in which mouth-organ carries much of the backing load. It may well put her in the lists (with plenty of personal appearances to help) though I think some of her previous songs have been better. Slow sentimental ballad on the B-side.

The Riot Squad

Anytime; Jump (Pye N15752) *****

SIX session musicians have banded together to form The Riot Squad which is going to cause a few riots around the place in 1965. Not so much a group, they say, more a mod band! Between them the lads play drums, sax, flute, guitar, organ, piano and euphonium (latter isn't on the disc). Larry Page started them off as a unit. It wouldn't surprise me if the husky well-backed vocals make

the charts—they're certainly worth four stars for newness and polish.

SHANGRI LAS TRY THEIR U.S. HIT HERE

TOP TIP
The Shangri Las

Leader Of The Pack; What Is Love (Red Bird RB 10014)

HEADING back for Britain in January will be the Shangri-Las who made it into our Top Thirty with **Remember (Walkin' In The Sand)**, despite doubts of those who said we were crazy to tip the group.

The three girls Mary Ann, Mary and Marge say they believe in bringing showmanship on to disc as well as to their stage act. In fact they're working at new ideas all the time.

TOP TIP

"If we keep developing as a good vocal—and visual—act," say the girls. "Then we won't suffer the fate of so many one-hit-disc folk."

Well, they've had two hits now in the States. **Leader Of The Pack** went to Number One over there and is still in the lists.

MY VERDICT: I think "Leader Of The Pack" will also hit here—though I rather wish it wouldn't! I don't like the American emphasis on teenage death which crops up again in this lyric. The side is brilliantly produced (possibly too well made for comfort) with engines roaring and screaming tyres heralding the fatal road accident which climaxes the number. The group sings well and with strong dramatics.

Zarah Leander

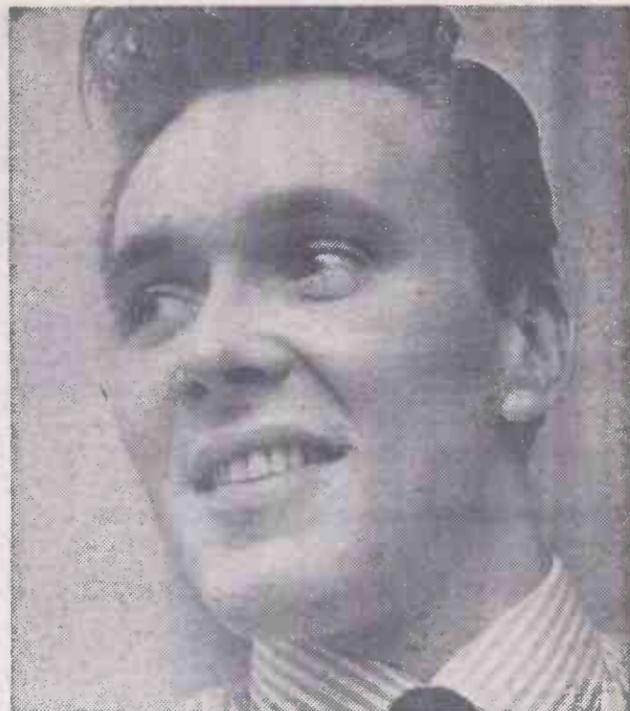
Wunderbar; Bleib Dich Fuhr Kein Weg Zuruck (Oriole CBI 1977)*****

ZARAH LEANDER has been a favourite on the Continent for many years. Her fantastic distinctive voice has been heard here before on disc, usually singing in German (despite the fact that she is Swedish). Recently her dramatic performance of Cole Porter's **Wunderbar** has been featured on early morning radio shows and has aroused tremendous interest.

VERDICT: A vocal which never ceases to astonish no matter how many times you spin it. Zarah's amazing strength and colour make you smile with her as she really gets inside the meaning of the word "Wunderbar."

DON NICHOLL

BILLY FURY—this could be his fifteenth hit!



Three stars pick on 'Dear Heart' theme

TOP TIP

Ronnie Carroll

Dear Heart; We Almost Made It (Philips BF 1386)

"I've been waiting for more than three months for this record to come out," Ronnie Carroll told me the other evening. "Dear Heart" is a film title song and my recording manager Johnny Franz spotted it. Competition's going to be tough, but I hope our version registers. I think it's a great song."

Ronnie added that he hoped to get the chance to sing it in pantomime this year too... he'll be playing Buttons at the Globe in Stockton. "A lovely part—I think it's the best in all pantomime."

Dear Heart was written by Jay Livingstone, Ray Evans and Henry Mancini, a trio with enviable screen hits behind them already. This could be another... Jack Jones, Andy Williams and Mancini himself will be among the competition Ronnie talked of.

MY VERDICT: Musical director Wally Stott leads Carroll into the slow waltz ballad with Mantovani-like strings—and it suits. This is a very romantic number both lyrically and melodically. Tune is the sort which plants itself swiftly without being trite. Type of waltz ballad that always finds a market whatever year it happens to be. Ronnie sings it smoothly and sincerely—and ought to hit, despite the opposition. Other half features an out-of-tempo ballad with good lyric.

Jack Jones

Dear Heart; Where Love Has Gone (London HLR 9939)***

I HAVE rooted for Jack Jones ever since he started recording, but although his is the original vocal version of **Dear Heart** I don't think it's up to his personal standard. Jack sings the ballad simply as a gentle joggin' pace — good but not very good.

Henry Mancini

Dear Heart; A Shot In The Dark (RCA 1431)****

MANCINI directing orchestra and chorus through his own melodies. And putting a grace-note piano in the raft for **Dear Heart** (both he and Jones seem to emphasise the Country flavour of the song). The side has a lot of charm.

HERMAN BRINGS A SEVEN-FOOT DOG BACK FROM U.S.!

"HAVE you anything to declare?" asked a stern-looking officer of H.M. Customs, when on Tuesday last Herman's Hermits flew into London Airport from their promotion trip to the U.S.

"Yes," said Herman. "I have a snake, a seven-foot dog and 200 camels."

He meant it, too—but the stern face relaxed into a smile when the officer realised that the snake was of the stuffed variety (a present for Herman's Mum and Dad in Prestatyn), the dog was a seven-foot tall fluffy toy (for his nine-month-old sister, Suzanne) and the camels were, of course, American cigarettes.

The boys brought back a number of LPs. "All records that are not available in England," said Herman. "By Dion, The Coasters, James Brown—they're great! But the best of the lot is a single by The Beatles. It's called 'I'm A Loser' which is on their LP over here. It's the best they've ever made."

"We also brought back a lot of clothes—slacks and shoes, etc. We bought them in Hollywood—where we also found a shop called 'Beau Brummell's All-English Shop.' Just as everyone in Britain wants American gear, so the kids in America are mad about English clothes. It seemed very strange to us."

"When we flew into New York, we found a police escort waiting to drive us to the hotel—

cars back and front and motor-cycle outriders at either side. And it wasn't really necessary as there were only 500-odd girls waiting at the airport."

"But our troubles started when girls began to appear in our hotel corridor knocking on our doors. It had been announced on the radio when we were due to arrive and where we were staying—and it didn't take them long to discover our room numbers."

"The management didn't like it a bit—they blamed us for encouraging them. As if we could...!"

"But the black spot of the tour came in Hollywood, where we threw a party on the day before we left to fly home. The hotel room was full of people we'd met—but it wasn't until hours after the party ended that I discovered that all my money (£250 in fivers) had gone. I had nothing with which to pay my hotel bill and the rest of the boys had to stump up. I'm still in their debt."

"I reported it to the police, but it was of no use. In fact, the police told me that it was a good thing that the local wide boys didn't know that I had that sort of money in my room."

"They would have bumped you off for that amount," they said—and they meant it!"

John Norman

DISC

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DISC WEEKLY EXCLUSIVE

How the Beatles went Christmas shopping!

JOHN, Paul and Ringo couldn't walk down Oxford Street, London, to do their Christmas shopping. If they had done that, the big stores might have lost thousands of pounds in profits — because the crowds would desert them and mill round the Beatles!

So how did they do it? How does a Beatle get enough freedom to roam around the counters and choose—a Christmas chore that we all find easy, even if it is crowded?

PROBLEM

Ringo told me this week how he and the other two solved that big problem. George, presumably, is doing his shopping in between soaking up the Bahamas sun. "We decided the only way we could get down to buy-

ing the presents was to sort of hire a store for a couple of hours," said Ringo. He got busy, asked a friend to fix it up, and soon Woollands, a big Knightsbridge department store, within a few hundred yards of Ringo's flat, agreed to plan the Beatles shop-plot. "We got to the store at 6.30 in the evening, and there were five assistants—three girls and two men—to serve just John, Paul and me while the store was closed," Ringo explained. What did the three Beatles buy?

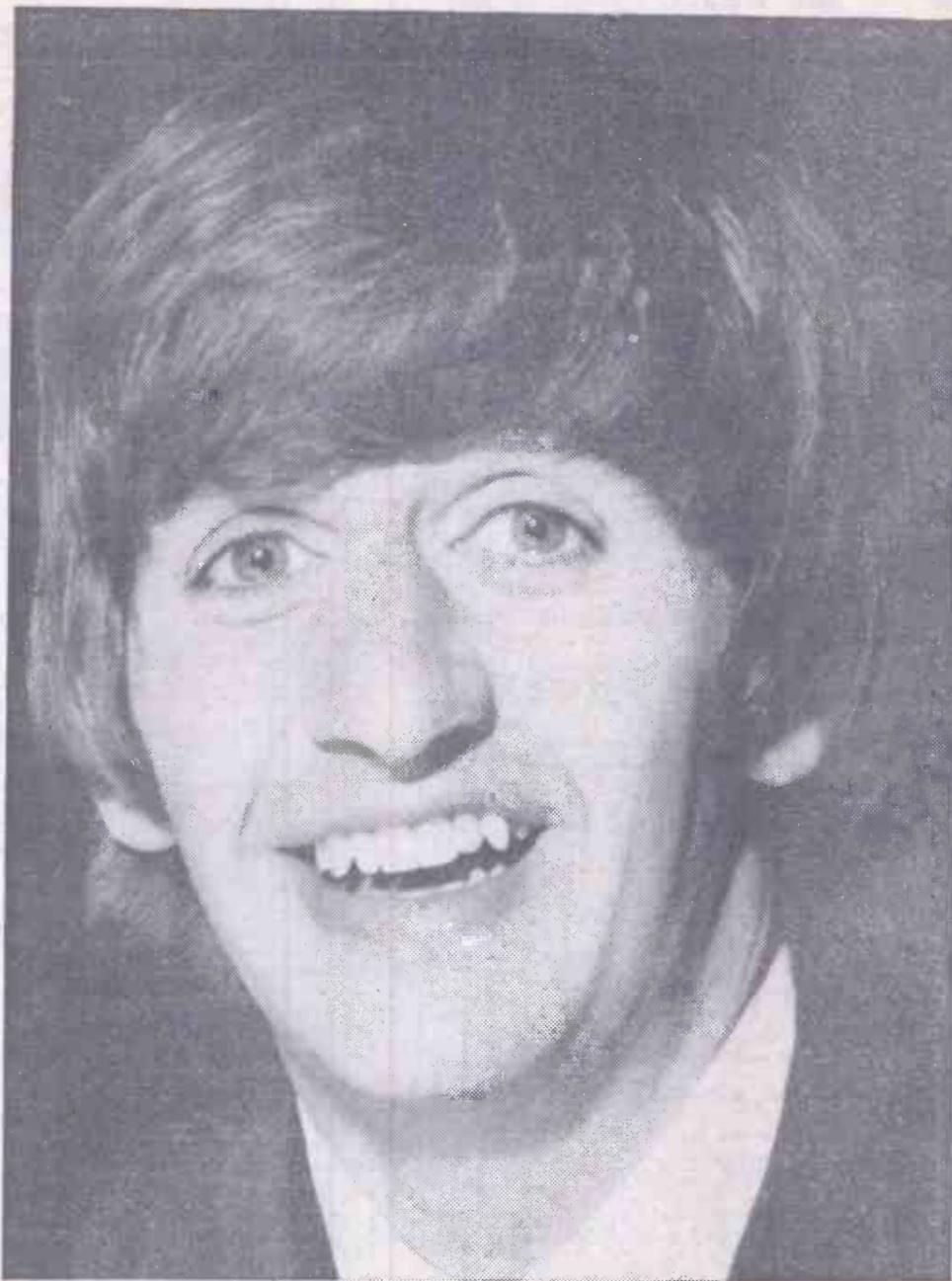
"Not telling you!" Ringo answered. "Can't have things like that in the papers—it would spoil the surprise for all my relatives." But Ringo did say he had bought goods worth

roughly £200; they were for five relatives and friends; and they were composed of "lots of little things." And he thought John and Paul had done "just about the same."

FUNNY

"I prefer getting my relations and pals a few little things instead of one big thing," Ringo told me. "It's more fun and more of a surprise that way." Was he treating himself to anything for Christmas? "No, I can't be bothered," he said. Would the Beatles be giving each other gifts? "I haven't bought them anything yet, and I'm not really thinking about it, to tell you the truth," said

By MIKE MARTIN



Ringo—bought £200 worth of gifts in a store closed to everyone except the Beatles

Ringo. "I suppose we might get each other some kind of zany present—something funny, that's for sure."

DELIVERED

When the Beatles did their Christmas shopping in that Knightsbridge store, all three of them walked the short distance from Ringo's flat—and they were joined by fans who couldn't fail to see the famous faces walking in there. It must be fun being a

Beatle and shopping. No money passes hands. The bills are sent to their office in London. And there's no weary carting of big parcels back home.

"They're delivering them," said Ringo. The doorbell rang at his flat as he said that, and Ringo opened the door. His Christmas swag had arrived.

"It was a great way of doing the shopping—and good fun," Ringo added. "We were in there from 6.30 until 8.30. First time I'd shopped in a closed-shop, though!"

What happens when Ringo wants fish 'n' chips?

- ★ ANOTHER
- ★ GREAT
- ★ DISC
- ★ WEEKLY
- ★ EXCLUSIVE
- ★ ON THE
- ★ BEATLES

YOUR TURN NOW

Stick to it, Twinkle!

PRIZE LETTER

THE older generation is constantly saying that modern teenagers live in a world of fantasy, shunning reality. This may be partly true but it seems to me that adults cannot make up their minds about reality and fantasy.

For instance, the theme of "Terry" is stark reality. Yet it seems that adults prefer teenagers to stay in a world of their own because as soon as someone creates something in a pop song which is real, they ban it as "unsuitable." Stick to it, Twinkle. And

adults, make up your minds! —ANN HAMILTON-GILL, 10 Kingsland Close, Kingsthorpe, Northampton.

Top Beatles

FOR the past two years I have been giving points to artists for their position in DISC WEEKLY's Top Thirty. The Beatles were top, Cliff was second followed closely by Gerry and Roy Orbison.

Elvis came twelfth, beating The Stones into thirteenth place even though The Stones are now one of our top groups.—KENNETH EDWARDS, 50 Elbow Lane, Stevenage, Herts.



TWINKLE'S "Terry" is just stark reality

Drop a line to POST BAG, DISC WEEKLY, 161 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4, and then watch out—you may win an LP of your own choice, and once a month there is a magnificent Ronson "Claridge" table lighter as a bonus prize!

Too hectic

POP stars seem to get quite exhausted during hectic one-nighters, and understandably so, too. To prevent this why aren't tours arranged with more sense?

Why not have all the northern dates together, all the southern dates together, and so on. This way the singers would not get so weary and would benefit from better health.—BARBARA REID, 9 Church Road, Osterley, Isleworth, Middlesex.

Too much

A LOT has recently been written about the failure of pop packages. Well, I'm not going to any more package shows, and this is why:

- (i) They're too expensive.
- (ii) The fans probably cannot hear any of the songs through screaming.
- (iii) Supporting acts are often an embarrassment.
- (iv) The sound system is terrible. — JOHN WRIGHT, Downs View, Swanage, Dorset.

CLIFF AND THE SHADS—THEY'RE STILL A GREAT TEAM

WHAT a team! I mean, of course, Cliff Richard and The Shadows. I've just been listening to their new LP "Aladdin" . . . and it's great. To think that The Shadows composed both music and lyrics for it. Any one of the numbers could easily crash the charts as singles. Surely this proves that Cliff and The Shads are on top of the world for entertainment. It also proves that in The Shadows, Britain has some of the finest pop composers.—A. BAILEY, 5 Margaret Street, Aberaman, Aberdare, Glamorgan, S. Wales.

Mike Ledgerwood discovers that in spite of their latest disc

THOSE SEARCHERS AREN'T FOLKY FOLK AFTER ALL!

PEOPLE are saying that The Searchers, who seemed to be slipping a bit from the hit parade scene a few months ago, are on a folk kick because their latest single "What Have They Done To The Rain" runs close to the idiom.

"But I'm assured by Chris Curtis, their drummer-leader, that this is definitely NOT the case.

"We've always featured folk numbers in our shows. Even right back in the days before we became well-known. We decided to issue this folksy songs as a change. It's too bad that people should think this way, just because a lot of other groups are climbing on the band-wagon," he said.

"What Have They Done To The Rain," which has this week climbed to No. 19 in DISC WEEKLY's Top Thirty, was written by elderly American songwriter Marvinia Reynolds, responsible for a number of the more controversial folk numbers. She also penned Pete Seeger's hit "Little Boxes."

No Bob Dylan!

The Searchers claim they have a pretty wide taste in music and Chris was very adamant about one thing.

"I haven't any of Bob Dylan's records. I don't like his style of singing! His songs are great, but he and I see his lyrics interpreted in a different manner."

I told Chris I'd heard that they'd thought of using another Jackie De Shannon song as their follow-up. Jackie, remember, provided the magic formula with "When You Walk In The Room" which sent The Searchers zooming back up the charts after the comparative failure of "Some Day We're Gonna Love Again."

"Yes, there was talk of recording another Jackie number, but we reckoned that the critics would all say: 'Uh, Uh! The Searchers are cashing in on Jackie De Shannon songs.'" ("Needles And Pins" was another number both she and the boys recorded).

"We wanted to do this one because we all liked it so much and felt we could prove that we could pull it off with a slower tune."

"I first heard it sung when we were in the States by a woman called Bessie Banks. She recorded the original version and did a great job of it. I think she sounds like a cross between Shirley, of The Shirelles, and Dee Dee Warwick. (Dionne's sister who first recorded "You're No Good," with which The Swinging Blue Jeans had a huge hit).

How did the other Searchers feel about this folk leaning which seems to be becoming very much a part of the scene in Britain now? There's tremendous folk influence—particularly Bob Dylan-style—on the new Beatles LP.

Fourth album

"Mike Pender is very keen on folk songs," went on Chris. "John likes the R 'n' B numbers, and Frank—like myself—is fond of the sort of songs Jackie turns out. We also like R 'n' B, but usually only the vocal numbers. Frank and I like some of the weird phrasing which gets into them."

At the moment, apart from promoting their new single, The Searchers are busy recording tracks for their fourth British LP.

"This time we're in a different studio and, believe it or not, we're finding we're getting a different sound as a result. I can't tell you what the numbers on it will be, but they've got to be good because I believe that only the very best material should be put out on long players," said Chris, dashing back to the recording studio.



MIKE and CHRIS have different tastes.

CHRISTMAS with the STARS

They'll get one day off—if they're lucky

THAT clown of pop FREDDIE GARRITY, who's convalescing after a cartilage operation on his knee, plans to drive back to his home in Gatley, Manchester, after the opening night of The Beatles' Christmas show in Hammersmith on Christmas Eve. He wants to throw a special party for his family and relatives.

"We start rehearsals next Monday," he told me. "My knee's still a bit swollen, but I expect I'll be fit in time."

One star who'll be having a nice, well-earned break from the business is DUSTY SPRINGFIELD, who gets ten days completely free from engagements after her return from a tour of South Africa.

Again it'll be a family affair at Christmas, with her mother and father travelling up from their home in Brighton, to be a special dinner party. Dusty and brother TOM will throw in London.

THE ROCKIN' BERRIES have a very good reason for wanting to watch television on Christmas Day. They're eagerly awaiting the showing of ATV's pre-recorded "Today" programme in which they appear.

Snuggled round TVs at home in Birmingham, the boys will be seeing themselves on the "box" for the very first time since they shot to fame with their disc "He's In Town." Up until now they've been too busy to watch programmes they've been on!

Those KINKS are another group who will find themselves busy right up until Christmas Eve when they play a date in Manchester, before returning to town for Christmas at their London homes.

Relaxing at their expensive homes and flats in and around London on Christmas Day will be THE BEATLES, who begin rehearsals on Monday for their big show which opens in Hammersmith on Christmas Eve.

Although there's a chance that the famous four will have some sort of festive get-together with girl-friends and families, the boys will probably spend the day quietly.

GERRY MARSDEN, opening in his own show, "Gerry's Christmas Crackers" in his hometown of Liverpool on Boxing Day, will be hard at it rehearsing from this Sunday until Christmas Eve when he'll probably go home to be with his parents.

Also at home in the 'Pool will be THE FOURMOST

and down to Kent will go SOUNDS INCORPORATED.

CLIFF BENNETT, whose follow-up to his hit "One Way Love" is upped to go as high in the charts, will be with his folks at Hayes, in Middlesex.

DAVE BERRY, that shifting, whispering giant of pop, tells me that he'll spend Christmas Day at home with his parents and sister at Beighton, Sheffield, but is also off to a party thrown by some friends at an hotel in Derbyshire. M. L.

And Zombies, Teens won't even get that!

WHILE other people are opening their presents and preparing themselves for the traditional Christmas lunch this year, one group at least will be hard at it working. They are The Zombies, the St. Albans group which shot to hit parade fame with their first disc "She's Not There," who will be doing shows for the Murray "The K" television programme in America.

On Tuesday, after overcoming visa difficulties, they flew to the States for TV and radio dates followed by a three-week trek of major cities and when I spoke to Rod Argent before they left he told me:

"We're really looking forward to America, but I don't suppose we'll have any free time at Christmas this year."

"We're lined-up for this Murray The K show over there and that'll mean six shows starting at 8.30 a.m. Christmas morning!"

"We're going to have a couple of days fairly free when we arrive, though, so I expect we'll fix up some sort of festive celebration on Christmas Eve to make up for being away from home!" M. L.

★ ★ ★ IF Santa Claus DOES call on The Nashville Teens this year, he'll speak with an American accent!

For the Teens are spending Christmas in New York. They are due to leave Britain on December 23, and star for ten days in Murray The K's famous show at the Brooklyn Fox Theatre. Along with such Teens' favourites as Dionne Warwick, The Shirelles, Chuck Jackson, the Drifters and Ben E. King, Britain's Zombies will also be on the bill.

"It's like a dream come true," Teens vocalist Artt Sharp told DISC WEEKLY. "We've always wanted to go to America. Now, we're actually going—and appearing on the same show as stars we really admire."

"We must hear James Brown somehow," added Artt. "And we shall take in all the clubs—like Birdland, for modern jazz. And anyone drops into these places—just to play at impromptu sessions. So we hope to hear some really big names in the jazz and rhythm 'n' blues field." L. H.

Wishing all our Fans and Friends
a Very Happy Christmas
and a
Prosperous New Year

DEC, CON and JOHN



DON'T FORGET I STILL LOVE YOU
 Bobbi Martin
 Q 72477



DISCweekly
TOP THIRTY

BRITAIN'S
 BEST
 CHART
 SERVICE

GEORGIE HITS THE TOP TEN... BRENDA, GERRY IN

1	1	● I FEEL FINE	The Beatles (Parlophone)
2	2	● I'M GONNA BE STRONG	Gene Pitney (Stateside)
3	3	● DOWN TOWN	Petula Clark (Pye)
4	4	● WALK TALL	Val Doonican (Decca)
7	5	● NO ARMS CAN NEVER HOLD YOU	The Bachelors (Decca)
6	6	● I UNDERSTAND	Freddie and the Dreamers (Columbia)
5	7	● LITTLE RED ROOSTER	The Rolling Stones (Decca)
9	8	MESSAGE TO MARTHA	Adam Faith (Parlophone)
12	9	I COULD EASILY FALL	Cliff Richard (Columbia)
19	10	YEH, YEH	Georgie Fame and the Blue Flames (Columbia)
10	11	● SOMEWHERE	P. J. Proby (Liberty)
8	12	PRETTY PAPER	Roy Orbison (London)
16	13	GIRL DON'T COME	Sandie Shaw (Pye)
13	14	BLUE CHRISTMAS	Elvis Presley (RCA)
11	15	● BABY LOVE	The Supremes (Stateside)
17	16	TERRY	Twinkle (Decca)
18	17	GENIE WITH THE LIGHT BROWN LAMP	The Shadows (Columbia)
14	18	● THERE'S A HEARTACHE FOLLOWING ME	Jim Reeves (RCA)
20	19	WHAT HAVE THEY DONE WITH THE RAIN	The Searchers (Pye)
21	20	LOSING YOU	Dusty Springfield (Philips)
22	21	BEATLES FOR SALE (LP)	The Beatles (Parlophone)
27	22	LIKE A CHILD	Julie Rogers (Mercury)
28	23	CAST YOUR FATE TO THE WIND	Sounds Orchestral (Piccadilly)
—	24	FERRY CROSS THE MERSEY	Gerry and the Pacemakers (Columbia)
30	25	GO NOW	Moody Blues (Decca)
—	26	CHRISTMAS WILL BE JUST ANOTHER LONELY DAY	Brenda Lee (Brunswick)
23	27	UM UM UM UM UM UM	Wayne Fontana and the Mindbenders (Fontana)
24	28	HE'S IN TOWN	Rockin' Berries (Pye)
26	29	SHOW ME GIRL	Herman's Hermits (Columbia)
—	30	TRIBUTE TO JIM REEVES	Larry Cunningham (King)

Compiled from dealers' returns from all over Britain.

America's
Top 20

Last Week	This Week	1	I Feel Fine—Beatles
2	1	2	Come See About Me—Supremes
3	3	3	Mr. Lonely—Bobby Vinton
14	4	4	She's A Woman—Beatles
4	5	5	She's Not There—Zombies
7	6	6	Goin' Out Of My Head—Little Anthony and The Imperials
5	7	7	Ringo—Lorne Greene
8	8	8	Dance, Dance, Dance—Beach Boys
12	9	9	The Jerk—Larks
6	10	10	Time Is On My Side—Rolling Stones
30	11	11	Love Potion Number Nine—Searchers
24	12	12	Amen—Impressions
16	13	13	Sha La La—Manfred Mann
17	14	14	The Wedding—Julie Rogers
9	15	15	I'm Gonna Be Strong—Gene Pitney
11	16	16	Mountain of Love—Johnny Rivers
13	17	17	I'm Into Something Good—Herman's Hermits
10	18	18	You Really Got Me—Kinks
19	19	19	Any Way You Want it—Dave Clark Five
18	20	20	Saturday Night At The Movies—Drifters

Square name

— but it's

a swingin

sound

IT'S got the squarest-sounding title of any in the charts, it's by far the squarest-sounding orchestra, and when "Cast Your Fate To The Wind" was first released everyone said it was very nice but it didn't stand a chance! Now look at it! It came in last week at 28 and has now zoomed to 23.

And even though the "orchestra" consists of 10 session men who have been on more pop sessions between them than most pop singers, they didn't treat this as just another session. They really swung into it and their enthusiasm has really helped to push this one right into the chart.

tinkering

"Cast Your Fate" was written (and also recorded) by American jazz pianist Vince Guaraldi. The Sounds Orchestral hit is the brainchild of two Johns—Piccadilly A and R man and songwriter John Schroeder and top sessioneer Johnny Pearson.

"I've been tinkering around with orchestral ideas for quite a time," John told me, "and when Tony Reeves, who works here at Pye and also plays very good bass, brought the Guaraldi piece to me, I thought it was so offbeat it could be onbeat, if you see what I mean."

"I called Johnny Pearson in on it to play piano and help with the arrangement. Tony was on bass."

"Vince Guaraldi went into jazz for his version," said

Johnny Pearson, "but we felt it needed something different. Something that would make it appeal to a maximum number of people."

Why Sounds Orchestral?

"Why not?" countered John Schroeder. "It is orchestral, and it sounds that way. Every time an instrumental thing comes out these days, it's billed as by the Fred Bloggs Orchestra or Fred Bloggs and his Orchestra. I wanted something different for something which I think is different."

"I'm hoping to establish Sounds Orchestral in the album market," he concluded. "This doesn't mean that I won't try some more singles. The major problem will be finding something as good and original as 'Cast Your Fate To The Wind'."

Nigel Hunter



Two young ladies in the charts, BRENDA LEE in at No. 26 and DUSTY SPRINGFIELD (climbing again at No. 20).

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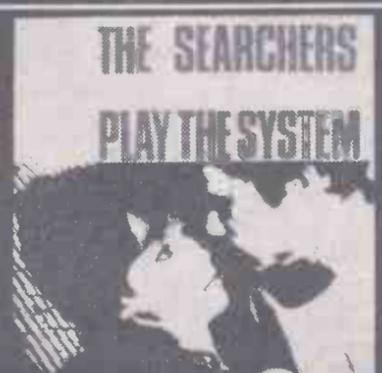
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DISC weekly

Kathy represents Britain in TV Song Contest

TV

KATHY KIRBY will represent Britain at the Eurovision Song Contest to be held at Naples on March 20. She will sing the winning song from six to be put before the public in a special BBC TV programme on January 29.

The winning song will be selected by votes cast by viewers and not by regional panels as in previous years.

The six songs are being specially written for the contest by Tony Hatch, Leslie Bricusse, Tom Springfield, Les Reed, Peter Lee Stirling and Chris Andrews.

When the result is known the top three songs will be sung by Kathy in another BBC-1 show on February 12.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Top Of The Pops '64 (BBC-1): Beatles, Dave Clark Five, Searchers, Cilla Black, Billy J. Kramer and The Dakotas, Peter and Gordon, Four Pennies, Animals, Roy Orbison, Manfred Mann, Honeycombs, Kinks, Herman's Hermits, Sandie Shaw, Supremes.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Ready, Steady Go (Rediffusion, 5.30 p.m.): Searchers, Herman's Hermits, Sandie Shaw, Dave Berry, Four Pennies, Wayne Fontana, Nashville Teens, Moody Blues.
Five O'Clock Club (Rediffusion, networked 5 p.m.): Roper Webb Trio, Hollies, Millie, Brian Poole.

BOXING DAY

Boxing Night Out (ABC 6.35 p.m.): Gerry and The Pacemakers, Julie Rogers.
Thank Your Lucky Stars (ABC, networked, 5.50 p.m.): Brian Poole, Mike Sarnes, Viscounts, Honeycombs, Valerie Masters, Susan Maughan, Bachelors.
Juke Box Jury (BBC-1): Peter Murray, Nyree Dawn



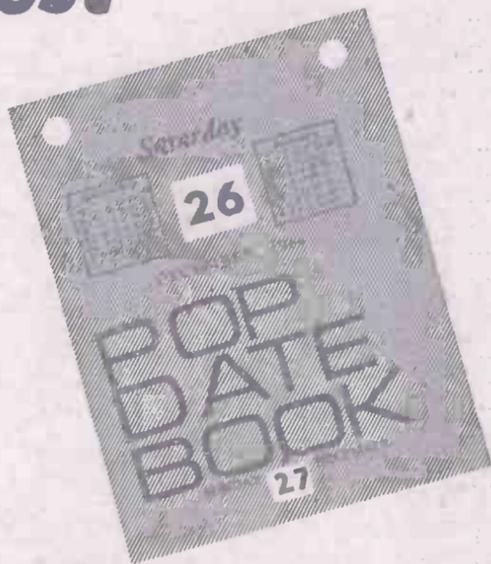
VAL DOONICAN

VAL, TWINKLE ON JURY

TWO pop stars riding high in our Top Thirty make their debut on Juke Box Jury early in the New Year.

Twinkle, whose "Terry" is Number 16 this week, and Val Doonican, whose "Walk Tall" stands at 10, both appear as panellists on January 2, together with Fenella Fielding and Charlie Drake.

Other New Year panellists so far fixed are David Healy, actress Peggy Mount, Peter Murray (January 9), and Katherine Boyle, Rupert ("Maigret") Davies and Richard Wattis (16).



Porter, William Rushton, Susannah York.

The Danny Kaye Snow (BBC-1): Nat King Cole.

Beat Room (BBC-2): Gerry and The Pacemakers, Tommy Quickly, Untamed, Three Bells, Twinkle, Peter and The Headlines.

SUNDAY

Sunday Night At The London Palladium (ATV networked 8.25 p.m.): Petula Clark.

MONDAY

Beat Room (BBC-2): Hell Raisers, Karol Keyes, Long and the Short, Peter and The Headlines, Art Woods.

Discs A Gogo (TWW, Border, Westward, 7 p.m.): Tommy Quickly, Dodie West, Paul Conway, Honeycombs.

TUESDAY

Five O'Clock Club (Rediffusion): Kenny Ball, Tsai Chin.

Discs A Gogo (Anglia, 7 p.m.): See Monday.

WEDNESDAY

Discs A Gogo (STV 7 p.m.): See Monday.

THURSDAY

The New Year Starts Here—So Ready Steady Go (Rediffusion, from 11.05 p.m. all regions): Dave Clark Five, Dusty Springfield, Manfred Mann, Freddie and The Dreamers, Kinks, Kenny Lynch, Susan Maughan, Animals, Sandie Shaw.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Top Gear (Light): Gerry and The Pacemakers, Jerry Lee Lewis, The Miracles.

The Beat Show (Light): Dave Berry.

APPLEJACKS: Sheffield (24), Edinburgh (27), Kilmarnock (28), Kidderminster (31).

CLIFF BENNETT: Burton's Ballroom, Uxbridge (24).

DAVE BERRY: All Nighte Esquire Club, Sheffield (26), Belle Vue, Manchester (27), Scunthorpe Baths (31).

SPENCER DAVIS GROUP: Crazy-E, Birmingham (24), Twisted Wheel, Manchester (26), Borough Hall, Market Square, Aylesbury (29), Cubic Club, Rochdale (30), Crazy-E, Birmingham (31).

THE ESCORTS: Royal Hotel, Lowestoft (26), Majestic, Crewe (31).

GEORGIE FAME: Flamingo, London (24 and 26), Bromley Court Hotel (27), Ricky Tick Club, Windsor (31).

HERMAN'S HERMITS: Oasis, Manchester (24).

MATT MONRO: Arcadia Theatre, Skegness (26), La Dolce Vita, Newcastle (week commencing 28).



CLIFF and The SHADS whoop it up on stage during rehearsals for "Aladdin" which opened at the London Palladium on Tuesday.

CAROLINE GOES IN SEARCH OF THE STARS



BRENDA LEE
On "Saturday Club"

RADIO

RADIO CAROLINE has planned an ambitious Christmas programme to compete with other radio stations on Boxing Day. Between 2.0 and 4.0 p.m. there will be a non-stop round-up called "Round The World With Caroline" which will feature interviews and recordings from top stars throughout the world.

British artists featured include The Beatles, Cliff Richard and The Shadows, The Fourmost, Val Doonican and The Bachelors.

Artists from other parts of the world include The Miracles and Betty Everett from America and The Spotnicks from Sweden.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday Spectacular (208m): P. J. Proby, Frank Ifield, Alma Cogan, Acker Bilk, Joe Loss, Simon Scott, Russ Conway.

BOXING DAY

Saturday Club (Light): The Beatles, Brenda Lee, Joe

Brown, Georgie Fame.

Saturday Swings (Light): Gerry and The Pacemakers, Searchers, Sheila Buxton, Scott Peters, Viscounts, Inne Marlow, The Seekers, Wout Steenhuis.

SUNDAY

Sunday Best (Light): Kenny Ball, The Travellers.

Easy Beat (Light): Matt Monro, Julie Rogers, Migli 5.

TUESDAY

New Year Revels (Light): Mark Wynter, Patsy Ann Noble, Migli 5, Viscounts, Seekers, Georgie Fame.

It's pop panto time!

IT'S Christmas Showtime—and the stars are glittering in force on theatre stages throughout Britain.

The Beatles are at Hammersmith, Gerry and The Pacemakers are on their home territory in Liverpool, and Cliff Richard and The Shadows are whooping it up at the London Palladium.

Here is a run-down on the Christmas shows and pantos that already have the fans clamouring for tickets:

ANOTHER BEATLES CHRISTMAS SHOW: The Beatles, Freddie and The Dreamers, Sounds Incorporated, Elkie Brooks, Michael Haslam, Jimmy Savile, The Mike Cotton Sound, The Yardbirds, Odeon, Hammersmith, from Dec. 24.

GERRY'S CHRISTMAS CRACKER: Gerry and The Pacemakers, The Hollies, Danny Williams, The Fourmost, Cliff Bennett and The Rebel Rousers, Tommy Quickly and The Remo Four, The Rustiks, Odeon, Liverpool, from Dec. 26; Odeon, Leeds (from January 4 to 9); Odeon, Glasgow (Jan. 11 to 16).

ALADDIN AND HIS WONDERFUL LAMP: Cliff Richard, The Shadows, London Palladium from Dec. 22.

PUSS IN BOOTS: Frankie Vaughan, Jimmy Tarbuck, Liverpool Empire, from Dec. 24.

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK: The Bachelors, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, from Dec. 24.

ALADDIN: Lonnie Donegan, Gaumont, Hanley, from Dec. 26.

ALADDIN: Helen Shapiro, The Trebletones, New Theatre, Hull, from Dec. 26.

DICK WHITTINGTON: Herman's Hermits, Royalty, Chester, from Dec. 26.

ONCE UPON A FAIRY TALE: Lulu and The Luvvers, Heinz, Marty Wilde, Gaumont, Doncaster, from Dec. 26.

DICK WHITTINGTON: Daryl Quist, Civic Theatre, Darlington, from Dec. 26.

MOTHER GOOSE: Mark Wynter, Gaumont, Southampton, from Dec. 26.

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK: Mike Preston, Hippodrome, Stockton, from Dec. 26.

Your chance to follow 'em around

APPLEJACKS: Sheffield (24), Edinburgh (27), Kilmarnock (28), Kidderminster (31).

CLIFF BENNETT: Burton's Ballroom, Uxbridge (24).

DAVE BERRY: All Nighte Esquire Club, Sheffield (26), Belle Vue, Manchester (27), Scunthorpe Baths (31).

SPENCER DAVIS GROUP: Crazy-E, Birmingham (24), Twisted Wheel, Manchester (26), Borough Hall, Market Square, Aylesbury (29), Cubic Club, Rochdale (30), Crazy-E, Birmingham (31).

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HERMAN'S HERMITS: Oasis, Manchester (24).

MATT MONRO: Arcadia Theatre, Skegness (26), La Dolce Vita, Newcastle (week commencing 28).

MERSEYBEATS: Memorial Hall, Norwich (24), Royal Star, Maidstone (26), State Cinema, Gainsborough (27), Winter Gardens, Margate (29), Witch Doctor, Hastings (30).

MOJOS: Hull (24), Chelmsford (26), Tunbridge Wells (31).

PRETTY THINGS: 100 Club, London (29), Memorial Hall, Northwich (31).

ROCKIN' BERRIES: Tunbridge Wells (24), Public Hall, Heacham (26), State Cinema, Gainsborough (27), Pavilion, Bath (28), Cavern, Manchester (30).

SWINGING BLUE JEANS: Mardi Gras, Liverpool (26).

TWINKLE: Bristol (30).

MATT MONRO

A week at Newcastle



WAYNE FONTANA: Scunthorpe (24 and 26), Belle Vue, Manchester (27), New Century Hall, Manchester (8.45 p.m., 31), Conservative Club, Accrington (11.45 p.m., 31).